

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY PROTECTION USING THE MICROPROCESSOR
SERIAL NUMBER**

Abstract of the Invention

In order to prevent unauthorized usage of a software
5 program, the software program is encrypted using at least a
part of a serial number or other identifying number stored
in the processing unit as the encryption key. The software
program is stored in encrypted form in the processing unit
memory. When the processing unit requires the use of the
10 software program, the program is encrypted using the
internally stored serial or identifying number.